

Notes on the inaugural meeting of the
VINTAGE GLIDER ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
held at Armstrong Field, Blanchetown,
South Australia on 15th October 1977.

Those present -- not recorded by me.

The meeting opened about 9 p.m.

The chairman, Mr Kevin Sedgman, opened the meeting and spoke on the need for an organisation to promote and stimulate interest in vintage gliders. He said two forms of organisation were possible -

1. a single body with representatives in the various States. It would act on a national basis.
2. a number of State bodies, each of which would be responsible only for activities within its State.

Mr Sedgman said that a tentative Association had been formed in South Australia but its future would depend on the outcome of the present meeting.

After discussion on various points of view, it was the opinion of the majority of those present that a single national body would best serve the interests of the vintage glider movement. It was proposed and seconded that a national body be established, and this was carried.

It was proposed and carried that this national body should seek affiliation with the Gliding Federation of Australia.

The meeting agreed that the name of the new body should be the Vintage Glider Association of Australia.

The meeting elected Mr Kevin Sedgeman as national president. The following State delegates were also appointed: Alan Patching (Victoria), Ray Ash (New South Wales), Neville Wynne (Western Australia).

It was agreed that efforts should be made to appoint delegates from Queensland and Tasmania as soon as possible, and also possibly from A.C.T. and the Northern Territory.

There was discussion on the possibility of having a representative of the Association on the Council of the G.F.A. It was agreed that Ray Ash should ask Mr Peter Falconburg to check the constitution of the G.F.A. to find out if the Association could appoint such a Council member.

It was agreed that the primary aims of the Association should be to encourage the preservation and flying of vintage and veteran gliders and sailplanes and to protect the interests of those who own and operate them.

There was discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of holding regular flying rallies. It was pointed out that experience in Britain had indicated that too many rallies led to a loss of interest by the public and participants. It was suggested that major rallies should be held no more frequently than once each year. There was some support, however, for the alternative proposal that once every two years was sufficient. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that an investigation be made of the possibility of holding another major rally during 1978, possibly at Benalla, Victoria, or T^Tocumwal, N.S.W.

After some discussion, the meeting agreed to fix an annual subscription of \$2 a member. This subscription is to be reviewed at the next annual meeting.

Discussion ensued on the need to make constructional drawings of vintage gliders and sailplanes available to builders and restorers. It was agreed that a register be made of available drawings and the names and addresses of those who hold them. It was recommended that, where possible, available drawings should be copies, as many original drawings are in poor condition.

The meeting closed at 10.40 p.m.